

GPFS Music Reviews



Library Feature: “Danza de la Mariposa” for Solo Flute by [Valerie Coleman](#)

Written by GPFS Member [Martha Long](#), Principal Flute with the Oregon Symphony

Valerie Coleman is an amazing flute player and composer. Learning any piece by her is both challenging and gratifying because she knows the flute so intimately. Her piece for solo flute, “Danza de la Mariposa”, is an ode to the butterflies of South America. It begins with a Yaravi, a type of Peruvian lament song. Within this slower introduction is an air of gravitas and solemnity, yet slight harmonic shifts offer glimmers of color and hope. A short cadenza at the end of the introduction introduces the first of a few extended techniques within this piece: a small burst of flutter tonguing that hints at more textures to come.

After the cadenza, the dance begins! Valerie uses mixed meters and displaced accents to create a lilting folk dance that is at times playful, seductive, and ominous. Hints of jazz and blues show up in some of the 16th note runs. The tango-esque dance explores the entire range of the flute, from accented low Bs to gentle fourth-octave C#s, so this piece is clearly meant for an advanced player! To punctuate the dance and add a sense of bass, Valerie asks for some percussive cracks on low Bs. A little bit of singing and playing adds harmonic tension as the voice holds a C# while the flute moves chromatically upwards against it. The dance concludes on a glorious sustained high G before the opening texture of the Yaravi returns to bookend the piece. The ending explores this gentle sound world a bit further than the introduction, concluding with a haunting third octave C harmonic.

“Danza de la Mariposa” is a perfect choice for recitals, competitions, or any advanced flutist looking for a rewarding and fun challenge.

This piece can be checked out from the [GPFS Music Library](#).



Library Feature – “Au-dela Du Temps” for Two Flutes and Piano by [Yuko Uebayashi](#)

Written by GPFS Member [Zach Galatis](#), Solo Piccolo with the Oregon Symphony



I'll never forget the first time I heard Yuko Uebayashi's "Au-dela Du Temps" ("Transcending Time") for two flutes and piano. I was at the National Flute Association convention in Pittsburgh in 2006, attending with my best friend from college, and we were total eager-beaver college flutists attending everything we possibly could to soak up as much flute as possible. The moment the piece started, we were both captivated. The swirling, intertwining opening lines of the first movement are mesmerizing. One of the most effective elements of the piece is how the lines are passed back and forth between the two flute parts - when the two flutists are well matched, it's often impossible to tell which person is playing which part. I was hooked instantly and knew I had to play it as soon as I could get my hands on the music.

The first movement ("Night, distant light") starts with a wandering, questioning line between the two flutes and piano, out of which eventually develops a beautiful, lyrical melody, also passed between all voices. The movement ends similarly to the way it begins. That ending provides the ultimate contrast to the second movement: it's a quick and exciting dance ("Dancing light") with chirping grace notes and fast exchanges between all three voices. Creating yet another sound world, the third movement ("White light") is a searching and plaintive ballad that has free, cadenza-like sections interspersed with virtuosic, solo passages for the piano. Ending the piece is the fun and melodic last movement ("In a dream, revolving light") which has a tune as hummable as any John Williams movie theme. A swirling frenzy of energy builds until the movement comes to a fiery close.

The performance I heard back in 2006 was played by Jean Ferrandis (Uebayashi dedicated the piece to him) and Carol Wincenc. I have since performed the piece several times and am always looking forward to the next time! Ferrandis has a CD of Uebayashi's works for flute, including this piece, which I would highly recommend. "Au-dela Du Temps" is a fun, challenging, and highly rewarding piece that I am thrilled is part of our flute ensemble repertoire.



Ouvrage autorisé
 Les Papeteries
 d'Alsace
 pour les
 écoles
 Les enseignants

à Jean Ferrandis
AU-DELÀ DU TEMPS
 pour deux Flûtes et Piano

Durée : ca 18 min.
 I. La lumière lointaine de nuit

FLÛTE 1 夜. 遠い光 Yuko UEBAYASHI 2002

Andantino tranquillo (♩ = 108)
 p dolce

poco rit. [A] a Tempo
 mp dolce pp

[B]
 p mf

2
 p mf

mp cresc. f

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 Éditions Muzic, 171, rue Saint-Benoît - PARIS AL 30 438

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